

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /059 W
-----128557 121419Z /44

R 121245Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6574
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, HU, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET REPORTING ON THE RETURN OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN

REF. BUDAPEST 0139

1. SOVIET REPORTING ON THE RETURN OF THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN HAS BEEN SPARSE. IZVESTIYA OF JANUARY 6 CARRIED A REPORT FROM IT CORRESPONDENT IN BUDAPEST ON THE ARRIVAL ON JANUARY 5 OF THE AIRCRAFT CARRYING THE CROWN, WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS THE "PRECIOUS HISTORICAL PROPERTY OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE." THE REPORT STATES THAT THE DECISION TO RETURN THE CROWN DESPITE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION IS REGARDED IN BUDAPEST AS THE "LOGICAL CONSEQUENCE OF THE PROCESS OF DETENTE" AND AS EVIDENCE OF SOCIALIST HUNGARY'S GROWING INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY.

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2. PRAVDA OF JANUARY 9 REPORTED THAT AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BUDAPEST SECRETARY VANCE STATED THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI ACT IS A LENGTHY PROCESS AND THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE IS THE FIRST STEP ON THAT PATH. PRAVDA OF JANUARY 10 CARRIES A TWO-SENTENCE REPORT OF THE RETURN OF THE CROWN BY SECRETARY VANCE, STATING THAT THE

RETURN IS THE RESULT OF REPEATED DEMANDS BY THE
HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT. FINNALLY, IZVESTIYA OF
JANUARY 9 ANSWERS A QUESTION FROM A READER CONCERNING THE
CROWN. THE HISTORY OF THE CROWN IS BRIEFLY
REPORTED. THE RETURN OF THE CROWN, DESCRIBED AS
"A UNIQUE RELIC OF HUNGARIAN HISTORY," IS SAID
TO BE A "MANIFESTATION OF DETENTE, EVIDENCE OF
THE HIGH INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY" OF HUNGARY.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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